

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the second full paragraph on page 17 of the originally filed specification with the following paragraph:

As shown in Fig. 16, the cavity 32 has a depth dimension such that the end portion of a chip component 11 put into the cavity 32 protrudes in the transport passage of the feeder 52A by a fixed amount R (for example, about 1 mm to about 2 mm). Accordingly, the chip components 11 moving on the feeder 52A are caught by the end portion of the chip component 11 put into the cavity 32. A chip component 11 which is caught will be in a waiting state in order to be put into the cavity 32 next, and, as soon as a next cavity 32 comes, the chip component in a waiting state is put into the cavity 32 without delay. As a result, the rate of chip components 11 being put into the cavities 32 can be improved.

Please replace the last full paragraph on page 19 of the originally filed specification with the following paragraph:

A one-part-separating block 87 is provided to separate the chip components 11 transported from the linear feeder 84 in order to put the chip components 11 into cavities 92 of the indexing table 91. Inside the one-part-separating block 87, a hollow transport passage (not illustrated) for transporting the chip components 11 is formed. Although the chip components 11 supplied to the transport passage proceed to the cavities 92 by the suction from a reduced pressure source provided in a rotor 93 of the indexing table 91, it is possible to put the chip components 11 into the cavities ~~94~~ 92 one-by-one by pressing down the chip components 11 in the rear in the transport passage using a pin, etc.